

J.C.S. 1907/137

(LIMITED DISTRIBUTION)

8 May 1956

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

DECISION ON J.C.S. 1907/137

A Report by the Joint Strategic Plans Committee
on

USEUCOM PLAN (BERLIN) 10-55 AND USEUCOM PLAN (BERLIN) 12-55

Note by the Secretaries

1. On 8 May 1956, the Joint Chiefs of Staff approved the recommendations in paragraph 9 of J.C.S. 1907/137.
2. The memorandum in Enclosure "A", together with its Appendix, was forwarded as SM-365-56, dated 8 May 1956, to USCINCEUR. The memorandum in Enclosure "B" was forwarded to the Secretary of Defense, dated 8 May 1956.
3. This decision now becomes a part of and shall be attached as the top sheet of J.C.S. 1907/137.

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RICHARD H. PHILLIPS,
R. D. WENTWORTH,
Joint Secretariat.

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19 April 1956

Pages 775 - 782, incl.

REPORT BY THE JOINT STRATEGIC PLANS COMMITTEE

to the
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

on

USEUCOM PLAN (BERLIN) 10-55
AND USEUCOM PLAN (BERLIN) 12-55

References: a. J.C.S. 1907/104
b. J.C.S. 1907/112
c. J.C.S. 1907/113
d. J.C.S. 1907/114
e. J.C.S. 1907/127
f. J.C.S. 1907/128
g. J.C.S. 1907/129
h. J.C.S. 1907/130
i. J.C.S. 1907/131
j. J.C.S. 1907/132
k. J.C.S. 1907/133
l. J.C.S. 1907/134
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Gen. Picher (DDSP)
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See Decision dtd 5-8-56
see n/H dtd 6-11-56

~~TOP SECRET~~
JCS 1907/137

- 775 -

DOWNGRADED TO
SECRET per n/H 4/6-11-56

FILE COPY

THE PROBLEM

1. To review USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 10-55* and USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 12-55.**

FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM

2. On 29 December 1954, the Joint Chiefs of Staff directed*** USCINCEUR to prepare certain plans on the military aspects of United States policy toward Berlin (NSC 5404/1)**** to include unilateral contingency plans to deal with a blockade, if imposed by the Soviets or East Germans, and for meeting local reprisals and harassing actions.

3. On 12 January 1955, the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommended# that the Secretary of Defense approve a recommendation## by the Operations Coordinating Board (OCB), that the National Security Council give consideration to unilateral courses of action which might be appropriate at this time to deal with a blockade of Berlin, if imposed by the Soviets or East Germans, or to deal with increased harassment seriously impeding Western access to Berlin. In addition, the Joint Chiefs of Staff stated that, after their review of the plans referred to in paragraph 2 above, they would advise the Secretary of Defense of proposed courses of action.

4. In response to the directive set forth in paragraph 2 above, USCINCEUR submitted two reports### on the status of his plans. He submitted USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 10-55 as a unilateral contingency plan for limited use of United States military forces, to determine Soviet intentions and reopen access to Berlin in

* Not reproduced; on file in Joint Secretariat; see J.C.S. 1907/128
** Not reproduced; on file in Joint Secretariat; see J.C.S. 1907/127
*** Appendix "A" to Enclosure "A" to J.C.S. 1907/112; see Note to Holders of J.C.S. 1907/112, dated 29 December 1954
**** Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/104
...# Enclosure "A" to J.C.S. 1907/114
Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/113
See Notes to Holders of J.C.S. 1907/112, dated 10 August 1955

case of a blockade or in case Western access to Berlin is seriously limited by harassing actions, and USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 12-55 as a unilateral airlift plan in the event all surface means of access to Berlin are blocked.

5. The Chief of Staff, U.S. Army,* the Chief of Naval Operations,** the Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force,*** and the Commandant of the Marine Corps**** have submitted comments on these plans.

DISCUSSION

6. For discussion, see Enclosure "C".

CONCLUSIONS

7. USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 10-55 and USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 12-55, subject to the modifications to USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 12-55 contained in the Appendix to Enclosure "A" hereto, should be approved.

8. No action by the National Security Council should be taken, at this time, with respect to the military aspects of unilateral courses of action which might be appropriate to deal with a blockade, if imposed by the Soviets or East Germans, or to deal with increased harassment seriously impeding Western access to Berlin.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. It is recommended that the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

a. Forward the memorandum in Enclosure "A" hereto, together with its Appendix, which reflects the conclusion in paragraph 7 above, to USCINCEUR.

b. Forward the memorandum in Enclosure "B" hereto, which reflects the conclusion in paragraph 8 above, to the Secretary of Defense.

10. No recommendation is made as to the distribution of this paper to commanders of unified or specified commands.

* Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/134 and J.C.S. 1907/129
** Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/135 and J.C.S. 1907/132
*** Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/136 and J.C.S. 1907/133
**** Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/130 and J.C.S. 1907/131

ENCLOSURE "A"

D R A F T

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER IN CHIEF, U.S. EUROPEAN COMMAND

Subject: USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 10-55 and
USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 12-55

1. The Joint Chiefs of Staff approve USEUCOM Plan (Berlin)
10-55.*

2. The Joint Chiefs of Staff approve USEUCOM Plan (Berlin)
12-55** subject to the modifications contained in the Appendix.

* Not reproduced; on file in Joint Secretariat; see Enclosure
to J.C.S. 1907/128
** Not reproduced; on file in Joint Secretariat; see Enclosure
to J.C.S. 1907/127

APPENDIX TO ENCLOSURE "A"

MODIFICATIONS TO USEUCOM PLAN (BERLIN) 12-55

1. A psychological operations program should be established in support of this plan to counteract Soviet propaganda and to utilize the favorable U.S. psychological potential of the planned airlift. The program should be coordinated with the U.S. Information Agency and other U.S. informational media and provide for their assistance and participation.

REASON: To insure maximum results from psychological operations in the execution of this plan.

2. Page 6, subparagraph 3 a, add the following subparagraph:

"(9) Provide necessary security and counterintelligence support to Commander, Joint Airlift Task Force (Prov)."

REASON: Completeness.

3. Page 6, subparagraph 3 b, add the following subparagraph:

"(3) Provide necessary security and counterintelligence support to Commander, Joint Airlift Task Force (Prov)."

REASON: Completeness.

ENCLOSURE "B"

D R A F T

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: U.S. Policy Toward Berlin

1. In a memorandum for the National Security Council* dated 7 January 1955, subject as above, the Executive Secretary, National Security Council, forwarded for consideration by the National Security Council an Operations Coordinating Board recommendation with respect to paragraph 9 of NSC 5404/1** which stated that ". . . the NSC give consideration to courses of action which might be appropriate at this time, in the absence of . . . consultation [with France and the United Kingdom], to deal with a blockade [of Berlin] imposed by the Soviets or the East Germans or to deal with increased harrassment . . . seriously impeding Western access to Berlin . . ."

2. On 12 January 1955 the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommended*** that you concur in the above recommendation by the Operations Coordinating Board, and stated that you would be advised of proposed courses of action after the Joint Chiefs of Staff had reviewed U.S. unilateral contingency plans being prepared by USCINCEUR to deal with a blockade of Berlin, if imposed by the Soviets or the East Germans, and for meeting local reprisals and harassing actions.

3. The Joint Chiefs of Staff have recently reviewed these plans**** and consider that they provide for adequate implementation, at this time, of those military aspects of U.S. Policy

* Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/113

** Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/104

*** Enclosure "A" to J.C.S. 1907/114

**** USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 10-55 and USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 12-55, on file in Joint Secretariat; see J.C.S. 1907/128 and J.C.S. 1907/127

Toward Berlin* concerning U.S. unilateral courses of action dealing with a blockade, if imposed by the Soviets or the East Germans, and for meeting local reprisals and harassing actions.

4. In view of the above, the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommend that no further action be taken at this time by the National Security Council with respect to the military aspects of the recommendation by the Operations Coordinating Board set forth in paragraph 1 above.

* NSC 5404/1, on file in Joint Secretariat; see Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/104

DISCUSSION

1. USCINCEUR's Berlin Plans 10-55* and 12-55** are generally in consonance with the policies and instructions of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. However, minor modifications should be made to USEUCOM Plan (Berlin) 12-55 for the purpose of completeness.

2. These plans are considered to provide for adequate implementation, at this time, of those military aspects of NSC 5404/1*** concerning U.S. unilateral courses of action dealing with a blockade, if imposed by the Soviets or the East Germans, and for meeting local reprisals and harassing actions.

* Not reproduced; on file in Joint Secretariat; see J.C.S. 1907/128

** Not reproduced; on file in Joint Secretariat; see J.C.S. 1907/127

*** Enclosure to J.C.S. 1907/104